



Head of School's Autumn Welcome

Dear Parents/Carers,

Welcome to all of the new families joining us here at Ark Tindal Primary Academy and a warm welcome back to those who are already part of our school family. Our first week of the new term is almost complete and it has been wonderful to see the children return so eagerly to their learning. Every year is an important year in your child's education and we look forward to working closely with you throughout the year.

I would like to take the opportunity to introduce myself, although many of you already know me. My name is Mrs Eaton and I am delighted to be the Head of School here at Ark Tindal. I have been teaching for fourteen years and this is my fourth year here at Tindal. I am supported by our Deputy Head, Mrs Randhawa, who joined us last May.

New Staff

We are delighted to welcome a number of new staff members. Mr Madzingo joins us in Year 5 from Ark Chamberlain. Mr Madzingo has been teaching for twenty years and will be an asset to our academy. Miss Fawdrey joins us in Year 4 and has already made a positive impact upon her new pupils. In Year 3 Miss Zaman and Miss Crawford join the team to work alongside Miss Bath. We welcome back Mrs Coffey and Mrs Thacker who are going to be working together and combining their mummy duties with teaching.

Our Early Years setting is a hive of activity and change. Reception and Nursery will be led by the newly married Mrs Ivins (congratulations to the former Miss Owen) and will be working alongside Mrs Mahfooz who has a wealth of experience in the early years and Miss Saboor who continues in her role as nursery teacher and will be supported by Miss Murray. Miss Bi will continue to support our Early Years and we welcome Miss Burns to complete our team.

We also offer our congratulations to Mr Rand who got married over the summer break.

Uniform

The summer does not seem to have left us completely yet and so girls are still welcome to wear their summer dresses. These must be green. School uniform consists of the school jumper, tie, white shirt, grey trousers, grey skirts for girls and grey or black tights. Leggings are not part of our uniform and so should not be worn. Headscarves should be white, grey, black or teal and should be plain. They must not be fastened by a pin as this can cause danger in school. Long hair should be tied back with plain bobbles and decorative hair-clips should not be worn. Earrings must be studs not hoops and no other jewellery may be worn. School shoes (not trainers) should be plain black. Finally, coats should be plain navy, grey or black. We have many colourful coats on the playground at the moment and they are not part of our uniform.

Lost property

Please check all uniform is clearly named. Teachers cannot be responsible for thirty jumpers that have no names in. Any un-named lost property will be placed in the lost property area where children can go to collect it.

100% Attendance

As we start the new school year attendance is at the forefront of our minds. Every day in school is a day of learning for your child and every day that they do not attend is a missed opportunity that they cannot get back. Holidays will not be authorised by the school and parents can be prosecuted for taking children out of school during term-time. To this end please do not be offended when we refuse requests for holidays. Doctor and dentists appointments must be made outside of school hours as we will not authorise these. Hospital appointment requests must be accompanied by the appointment letter. I am sure you will support us in ensuring that your child is in school every day.

School Dinners

Since becoming part of Ark we have tried to keep the cost of school dinners to a minimum. For the first time in four years we are now raising the cost of a school meal from £2.00 to £2.15 per day. If you believe that your child may be entitled to Free School Meals, please come to the Office to collect a form so that we can check this for you. Eligible pupils also enable the Academy to gain additional funding to support the children's learning. Please note that if your child is in Reception, Year 1 or Year 2, your child is automatically entitled to a Free School Meal, however, we can still receive these additional funds from the Government if you meet the criteria.

Finally, if you have any queries or concerns we are always willing to help. An appointment can be made at the school office to see your child's teacher or Mrs Randhawa, Mrs Mockbil and I will be on the playground before school begins.

Best wishes,

Mrs R Eaton

Head of School